**Every journalist has to go through trauma...**

**Webinar on 'Trauma Literacy in Journalism' at Ramlal Anand Mahavidyalaya, University of Delhi**

Experts from many countries of the world including many states of the country participated in the International Webinar

**New Delhi/ 20th April 2022.** When a journalist goes to cover the incident, he has to decide according to the circumstances of that time how he will cover the incident. Journalists are often under pressure while covering events, which is where the trauma begins. Many times, journalism takes away the sensibility of the human being, but this method is not right. There is a need to avoid this. This is the gist of the conversation of experts who participated in the International Webinar on 'Trauma Literacy in Journalism' organized at Ramlal Anand College, the University of Delhi on Wednesday.

Experts from countries including India, UK, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, etc. participated in the webinar organized in three sessions in collaboration with the College's Department of Hindi Journalism and Mass Communication and Lincoln University, UK. In the inaugural session, Ajay Kumar, Consulting Editor, India TV as the Chief Guest, spoke about trauma in journalism, referring to the incidents in Ayodhya, 9/11, and Lakhimpur Kheri. Olatunji Ogunyemi, the keynote speaker of the webinar and coordinator of Lincoln University's School of English and Journalism, described trauma literacy as a new and key issue in journalism. At the same time, he advocated the inclusion of trauma literacy in journalism education and put it into practice. The second keynote speaker was Dr. Lada Price of the Center for Culture Media and Society at Sheffield Hallam University, who said that journalism is a very sensitive profession, which affects not only the general public but also the journalist himself. The main objective of journalism is to keep sensitive and serious issues in front of the people in a positive way.

In the second session, Prof. Chiranjeevi Khanal spoke in detail about how the journalists were affected by the earthquake and what kind of trauma situation arose during the disaster sometime back in Nepal. Dr. Achala Abekoon from Sri Lanka gave a point-by-point talk on how journalists are facing the current situation in the country. Dr. Pallavi Majumdar from Bhutan told that trauma is everywhere. Its education should also be everywhere. It is a different matter that things are presented differently with respect to Bhutan. Senior journalist associated with Peshawar of Pakistan, Mohd. Shahid said that journalist unions here have contact with psychiatrists, with which journalists from time to time consult regarding trauma. Referring to the condition of the country in the Press Freedom Index, Shahroz Afridi of Bhopal talked about trauma in the context of many incidents including Bhopal in the past.

In the third session, Dr. Tanushree of Indraprastha College, Delhi University, while talking about promoting psychological training in journalism, emphasized giving maximum practical knowledge. Dr. Shilpa Kalyan of Presidency College Bangalore said that in view of today's journalism there is a great need for trauma literacy. At the same time, she stressed organizing such events from time to time. Dr. Anshu Arora of Amity University said in relation to the media houses that journalists are usually not given the kind of cooperation from the institutions, which is needed in adverse circumstances. Dr. Mou Mukherjee Das of Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad University, West Bengal also stressed the need for trauma literacy, while Dr. Archana Kumari of Central University, Jammu, while conducting the entire event enriched the webinar with her short comments.

Earlier, at the beginning of the event, the convener of Hindi Journalism and Mass Communication, Prof. Rakesh Kumar laid the outline of the webinar. College Principal Prof. Rakesh Kumar Gupta while welcoming the speakers underlined the changes taking place in the journalism department. He also expressed confidence that the students will get a lot of benefit from this event in the future. Ms. Shweta Arya welcomed the guests at the beginning of the three sessions and at the end Prof. Prerna Dewan thanked the speakers and online experts from the country and abroad. She also praised the students of the department and the participants from outside for participating in the event. The teachers, staff, and students of the department played a major role in making the event a success.